



GNARC Bulletin On Line

Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club

March 2004

Founded in 1934

Issue Number Three

Club Repeaters: K1OF 147.390/ + 600 (no PL) & K1UHF 448.075/ - 500 (PL-114.8)

Club Web Site: www.gnarc.org/ [Member E-Mail Directory](#)

GNARC Bulletin Breaking News & Updates www.qsl.net/w1ee/breaking.htm

Next Club Meeting will be Wednesday March 10, 2004

"Ned" KA1CVV will talk about a new way to send and receive e-mails via Ham Radio. TelPak system which uses HF and VHF/UHF. Check "**Presidents Message.**"

Regular Club Meetings start at 8:00 pm and are held in the Community Room at the [Shop Rite](#) on Connecticut Ave (Rte-1) in Norwalk. Talk in: 147.390 no PL.

Next ARES Net Monday March 1, 2004 at 8:00 pm NCS K3OS on 147.390.

President: "Ned" Bassick KA1CVV / **Vice President:** Allan Valeo NN1H (203) 762-9302

Secretary: John Sabini WB1GRB (203) 348-3983 / **Treasurer:** "Zig" Fekete, N1iCL

March GNARC Bulletin: John Sabini WB1GRB, Contributing Editor: Julie Valeo

GNARC Membership Dues Are Due For 2004!

Senior Membership: Individuals over 65 years of age.....\$15.00 per year
Standard Membership: Individuals under 65 years of age.....\$20.00 per year
Student Membership: Individuals under 18 years of age.....\$10.00 per year
Family Membership:.....\$25.00 per year

Send your dues to: "Zig" Fekete ~ 45 Stoehr Place ~ Bridgeport, CT. 06606

[Calendar](#) of meetings and local events.

Viewed in [HTML](#). 600x800.

I need articles desperately! Remember this is your newsletter. Send your GNARC Bulletin articles to: John, WB1GRB check [Member E-Mail Directory](#) GNARC Bulletin in Subject Line.

GNARC Minutes of the Meeting 2/11/04



Alan NN1H Vice President started the February GNARC meeting at 8:00 pm. Alan quickly made a motion from the floor to accept last month's minutes. Minutes were then passed by the members. He then quickly introduced the club officers present. Secretary: John Sabini, WB1GRB, Treasurer: Ziggy Fekete, N1iCL. ([More Photos](#))

Treasurer Report. "Zig" N1iCL reported that Bill KC1TX is recuperating and doing much better. "I will be meeting soon with Bill to transfer his records so I can take over as club Treasurer."

Send your dues to: Ziggy Fekete ~ 45 Stoehr Place ~ Bridgeport, CT. 06606.



PSK- 31 Gary K3OS than talked about testing PSK-31 over the 147.390 repeater. The purpose of this test was to achieve simultaneous voice and data over the existing repeater without causing interference with available technology. With PSK-31 you can use your computers sound card and keyboard. PSK-31 is extremely robust in the fact that you can receive information out of a lot of noise. This can be done in a sub audible range while the repeater is in normal use. We were successful in the 200 Hz level in passing two - way data.

There will be further testing. Information Contact Gary [K3OS](#).



AREAS Alan NN1H. AREAS has to do with people being involved. AREAS is an organization that falls under the ARRL Field Origination, which is entirely run by volunteers. It is a very tight association. Some of the people we need to know are: Section Manager Betsey M. Doane, K1EIC. Section **Emergency** Coordinator Allen G Pitts, W1AGP: District Manager William Barrett W1WJB. Bill is the watchdog for this section of Connecticut and is the person I report to each month. Bill asked me to share the Emergency Coordinator role

with Tim W1GIG .

Norwalk ARES is In service to Norwalk and the nearby towns of Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Weston, Westport and Wilton. Fred, [K1FC](#) is in charge of [SARA](#) AREAS, which covers Greenwich, Stamford and New Canaan.

One thing I have planned is to go out and find the towns designated emergency shelters. I want to operate on simplex from these buildings. I want to find a central location so we can communicate using simplex in case the repeater is not working. This will take some planning to see what kind of antennas we need and what kind of locations we can find around these shelters where we can operate on simplex.

Why Join AREAS? The simple message to AREAS is involvement. This is a personal involvement to find your own place in AREAS. It is fun and educational. If we count up the number of AREAS members that we have in the country, and show the FCC that we are involved we are not likely to lose any of our privileges.

More Information Contact: Allan Valeo, [NN1H](#) (203) 762-9302. Additional details about the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Courses can be found at www.arrl.org/cce/ If more information is desired, please send your request via e-mail to cce@arrl.org.

Coffee Break 8:45.



Fred K1FC winner of club raffle.

Meeting Resumed at 9:10.



Repeaters: "Ziggy" [N1iCL](#). It is important not to talk about the repeater over the repeater. If you want more information you can send me an E-mail. The address is located on the clubs E-mail directory. We will keep everyone informed at our monthly club meetings.

Both club repeaters are running and operating normally.

Because of the sensitive nature of this discussion I am leaving some of this information out of our newsletter, editor John, WB1GRB.

"Ziggy" then discussed these Repeater Guidelines.

Repeater Guidelines

Monitor repeaters to become familiar with operation.

Identify with your call sign at least once every 10 minutes.

Pause between transmissions to allow emergency breaks and to reset the repeater timer. This is especially important when **EchoLink** is in operation on the repeater.

Limit your time on the repeater to within reason. Rag chewing and long - winded operation is NOT recommended at anytime, and especially during the morning and evening drive times and it is not a friendly practice!

Talk to strangers occasionally. Many Hams, all good people, slip into a habit of not talking with anyone they don't already know when operating FM repeaters. They forget that this is not what they do when on HF!

If your area repeater has closed control or autopatch access codes, do not give them to others over the air! If you are entrusted with such information, you are expected to treat it with discretion.

Use simplex channels when they make more sense. Two cars traveling close together should NOT be using a REPEATER unless there is some compelling reason, like looking for another friend to join in, or the contact is going to be brief, etc.

Do not be afraid to use the repeater. That's why it's there! Do speak clearly and don't key or UN-key your microphone at the moment you start or finish talking. Give your rig and the repeater a moment to let other people use our resource.

Do wait for the courtesy tone before transmitting. This allows time for other stations to break in, and allows the system to reset.

For those stations using the repeater, upon the announcement of a new station, the next station in rotation should acknowledge the new station and turn it over to them and indicate who they should turn it over to keep the rotation intact.

Do follow the FCC's requirement to identify your station once every 10 minutes and at the end of a QSO. On the other hand, don't "over identify" by sending your call sign after every transmission.

Remember there are always other operators and people with scanners listening. Don't say anything that should be "private" and always do your best to sound friendly, professional.

Autopatch – When using the autopatch always keep in mind, you are on a big party line. Always inform the

called party of this fact to avoid embarrassment (to all). Again, only use the autopatch for its intended purpose. if you can use a telephone or cell phone please do so.

Echolink: There is a tone or "**Echolink Beep**" that is evident when someone is connected to the repeater. Try to remember to leave pauses, for these users have the same rights as a repeater user and must follow the same rules.

Meeting Ended at: 9:55 PM.

Icom IC-V8000 2-Meter Mobile Radio

By John Sabini WB1GRB J/S 2/8/04



I bought the Icom IC-V8000 3 years ago. This is the best 2 - meter mobile radio I have ever owned. The ham side of the business has finally caught up with the commercial side. This radio is constructed like a tank. These units are ruggedly built, and with the ease of computer programming. Other radios I've owned that came without a fan would get so hot you could not touch them. Radio's that run cool are more reliable. The fan on this radio runs very quietly for 2 minutes after transmitting, but you can also choose low, medium, or high speed. You can also

choose to have the fan run continuously. RF output 5/10/25/ and 75 watts on high power. You can easily search and lock in a unknown PL -tone of a repeater with the CTCSS tone scan. This radio is very easy to program and all the buttons light up including the microphone. You can program all of the radio's functions from the microphone including the squelch. The microphone is lightweight and comfortable to hold. I have not had a bit of intermod with excellent receiver sensitivity. The front mount speaker sounds great and cuts through loud road noise.

I can hit all the repeaters that I want. If you are in the market for a solid reliable 2 meter mobile, I would highly recommend buying the Icom IC-V8000. These radios were originally \$249.00. You can now purchase this radio new for about \$165.00. It's a Great radio for the money. I am planning to buy another IC-V8000 for my base station.

Other Features: RX: 136 - 174 MHz, Wide/narrow operation, Front firing speaker, Cooling fan, Dual color Display, Auto repeater offset, CTCSS Encode, CTCSS Decode, CTCSS Tone scan, DCS Encode, DCS Decode, DCS Code scan, DTMF Encode, DTMF Decode (optional) DTMF Code squelch, Dynamic Memory Scan, Weather channels, Weather alert, Weather scan, 207 Memory channels (3 scan edges) Call channel 6 Character alphanumeric display, PC programmable, Radio - radio cloning, Programmable keys, RF Attenuator, Channelized operation, Alpha only operation. Icom web site is located at: www.icomamerica.com/

AREAS NEWS

Kudos goes to Jack, N1RRF for handling an exceptional net last month. It started with a very busy check-in period and ended with Jack staying on with Karan, VE3GTU discussing our net and the ARES philosophy. There were check-ins from Danbury and even the Echolink connection got a workout. The net helps to define the reach of the repeater, the interest of our group, and our ability to get organized. It's is good to see it stayed so active.

My thanks to the club for their attention and interest at our February meeting. I hope I provided some new insights into ARES and maybe even some new information. Thanks also to Phil, WX1CT, and Brent, N1RRD, for their help and support. Just to recap a few points that I wanted to make at the meeting. There will be several opportunities for training this year. Formal dates and times haven't been decided yet but the Fox Hunt and the Simplex exercises are going to happen. I still have three openings for NCS for the summer months this year. One of them will go to a participant in one of the exercises. Anyone else interested in building skills as an NCS should let me know and I will assign one of the open months. Prior experience is not a requirement, however

any new NCS should have been a participant in the monthly nets. We can supply support in the way of scripts for the important stages and live backup during the net.

Registration for the Amateur Radio **Emergency** Communication Courses happens periodically. The cost of the course is \$45 for ARRL members and \$75 for non-members. You do not have to be an ARRL member to be part of ARES. For members the \$45 will be reimbursed at the end of a course in return for a passing grade on the test. The courses are designed to run over the Web but each course has a Mentor assigned to it that keeps the exercises interesting and on track. There are three levels to the program, the upper two pre-require successful completion of the levels below, and each level gets more involved and interesting as the student progresses. Check it out on WWW.ARRL.ORG under ARRL Courses.

Our March net is scheduled for Monday, March 1st at 8:00 pm on 147.39R. K3OS will be net control. All Amateur Radio Operators are welcome to check in.

Allan Valeo, NN1H, EC Norwalk ARES Group

Computer Corner

by ROGER GILER

www.acorn-online.com/cc.htm

As more products are miniaturized, I am continuously amazed at the skill of the designers. This has become obvious in the field of cell phones and portable music players. Of interest here is the size of the new generation of micro drives which are miniature hard disks. While less than 1 inch diameter, it can hold up to 4 Gigabytes of data. They are small enough to fit into cameras or PDAs (Personal Digital Assistants). These are mechanical marvels which require very little power and spin at high speed. Their capacity boggles the mind but unfortunately it gives software engineers additional power to create more sloppy code to fill them. What drove all this development was originally our push to get to the moon before Russia. Many critics complained noisily about all the waste of money on fundamental research. These were the materialistic narrow minds that could not see the future and the value of pure research. Better get off my soapbox, and return to computers.

Presidents Message

I just want to thank K3EIN, WB1GRB, NN1H and N1ICL for doing a super job while I was away to the two Hamfest during the February meeting. I see from the web site the meeting was well attended. Thanks Guys for making this happen. Anyway I attended the Miami, FL Hamfest and the Orlando, FL Hamfest back to back weekends. Manufacturers having new stuff at the two Hamfests was small. Kenwood again showing the new Mobile HF rig with 100 watt model or 200 watt model with removable faceplate. Then there was West Mountain Radio showing the "PWRgate". The first UPS for the Ham Shack. This little wonder designed by our own N1ZZ has three PowerPoles on it. One for the Power Supply one for your Battery and the other for your load like a Rig or RIGrunner. Once power is removed from the Power Supply (Black Out) your load will remain powered up. Do to your Battery. The PWRgate charges your battery while power is applied voltage is fed back into the battery.

Here is what is planned for the March meeting. First I will talk about the new way we can send and receive e-mails via Ham Radio. I will talk about the TelPak system which uses HF and VHF/UHF for sending and receiving e-mails over Ham Radio. The nice part about this system is that you no longer need to run Pactor or have a TNC. Your sound card and your RIGblaster will do the trick for you. I will have a running live demo which all can try out and send your self a e-mail to your internet account. Hand outs and live on screen display will be seen during the talk. This system has some great things that I see us using in the future during public service events.

Also please set your calendar for Sunday March 28th for our third Family picnic and Fun fly date at Sherwood Island State Park. This will be a day we can have a lunch together and fly some Kites and watch some of the

club members fly their Electric powered RC airplanes. We will have a special UHF ATV kite Cam and RC Cam with GPS flying for all to check out on the live video screen for viewing. As in the past this is also a great time for us to bring out our QRP rigs and make some contacts on QRP.

See you at the meeting and 73 de [KA1CVV](#).

SARA SUNDAY NIGHT NET Join the SARA net on the Stamford Repeater every Sunday night at 8 PM. After about a half hour of friendly discussion Fred K1FC will play the Amateur Radio "[Newslite](#)" with the latest happenings in amateur radio. Make yourself heard, join the net. 146.655 PL-100 Hz.

For Sale / Message Board

One IBM Thinkpad 560X WIN98SE P233 96megs, 4 Gig HD very light weight 4pds with all manuals, Restore CD's and license. \$200 call days 299-0233 ask for Ned. Or e-mail [ka1cvv](#).

ESTATE SALE (N1CML) Yaesu FT-980 HF Xcvr, \$475; Yaesu FT 726R 2M all mode Xcvr \$325; Yaesu YS-60 SWR-Pwr Mtr, \$50; MFJ Versatuner II (300W), \$100; Tram Reflect meter, \$15; Azden PCS3000 2M

Mobile w/o Mic, \$25; HP5301 10 MHz Freq Ctr. \$25; Eldorado 1615 30 MHz Freq Ctr., \$25; AEA PK-88 Packet TNC, \$35; Leader LAC 897 2M Transmatch, \$20. Call Marv, [N1AWJ](#), Posted by: WB1GRB

SB 102, POWER SUPPLY/ SPEAKER, AND HAND MIKE IN VERY CLEAN CONDITION. 80-10M. \$150. (203) 531-9493. Andy [KA1SLG](#).

55 Ft. Heavy Duty Crank Up Tower with tilt over base in very good cond. About 10 years old. \$700.00. Phone, 203-353-8422. Leave message. [WB1GRB](#). Pictures: www.qsl.net/w1ee/tower. Must sell building addition!

Icom 706mkIIIG, no box, in excellent condition, have all the small connectors it came with, asking 650\$ or Best offer. 203 748 7143.

FT-8100B 2M/70cm Transceiver with factory CTCSS encode/decode, separation kit, and includes all schematics and manual. Recent o/haul at Yaesu - Installed new style transmitter board and complete alignment. Works and looks as new. \$200.00 plus shipping - 203-975-8014 eves.

Quad, rooftop tower, and ham desk for sale. Lighting Bolt 5 band, 2 element Quad \$40. Create 10' rooftop tower with thrust bearing and rotor plate. Make me an offer. Unique ham desk originally used in Heathkit store: Slight "U" shape. Desk is 25" deep x 7 feet (at widest part) , two adjustable 12" deep full length shelves, tan Formica, extremely sturdy and handsome!. It disassembles for moving. \$350. Gary [K3OS](#) 203-762-8972 evenings.

HD-73 ROTOR w/CONTROL & CABLE, \$50; Cushcraft 10-40M Vert. Ant., \$15; Heathkit Station Monitor Mod. 614, \$50. 2 South Bend 7.5 HP Go-Cart Engines. Call for Info.

Call Irv, N1ATS, 348-3425 or e-mail [n1ats](#).

Posted by: WB1GRB

I have a HTX-202 with a cracked Case. I do not care if the radio works. I need the Plastic case.

Jerry W1FHM, (203) 853-3969

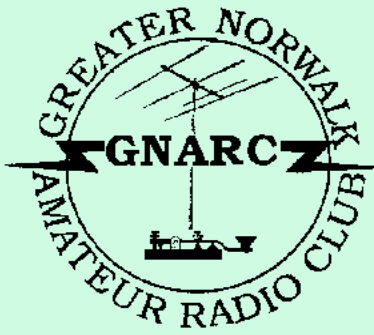
Posted By John WB1GRB

More Items On The Message Board Link Located At: www.gnarc.org/ & www.qsl.net/w1ee

If any items above are sold please contact me. John [wb1grb](#). 203-348-3983

POSTAL ADDRESS Courtesy of. **C/o. The UPS Store**

Greg Bryson [KA1NGF](#) 304 Main Av,
Perry Plaza Norwalk, CT. 06851
Phone (203) 847-6166



The Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 115
304 Main Street
Norwalk, Connecticut 06851
Club Web Site: www.gnarc.org/

A non-profit service oriented organization

When dealing with people, let us remember we are not dealing with creatures of logic. We are dealing with creatures of emotion, creatures bustling with prejudices and motivated by pride and vanity. Dale Carnegie

Articles must be in by the 23rd of each month to be published in this newsletter and web site. Updates & Breaking News can be made anytime and will be published at:: www.qsl.net/w1ee/breaking.htm

Join us before the meeting at John's Best Pizza on New Canaan Ave. at 6 pm.

[John's Best Pizza](#)

85 New Canaan Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06850
[map](#) | [driving directions](#)

If you are a GNARC member you should be receiving the mailed GNARC Bulletin toward the last week in February. If you have not received the newsletter or have any problems please contact me. John WB1GRB. 203-353-8422. My e-mail address located on the GNARC [Member E-Mail Directory](#).

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EmailSafe Page

02/22/2004 JS/ WB1GRB
